

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for providing product information comprising the steps of:
establishing a local reference frame which defines a space including a
product identifier and a portable display device;

5 receiving a request for product information corresponding to the product
identifier from the portable display device;

determining a position of the portable display device in relation to the local
reference frame; and

10 providing the product information via the portable display device according
to the position of the portable display device.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step receiving an
order for a product corresponding to the product identifier from the portable
display device.

15 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving a
bid for a product corresponding to the product identifier from the portable display
device.

20 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of adding a
product corresponding to the product identifier to a user shopping list using the
portable display device.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a menu for distinguishing a plurality of products in the space via the portable display device.

5 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of redirecting a user toward an alternative product using the portable display device.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
determining the orientation of the portable display device; and
10 selecting between the object and another proximate object on the basis of the orientation of the portable display device.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the local reference frame is established using an active beacon.

15 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of determining a position of the portable display device by comparing one of signal strengths of at least two beacons, a signal transmission time from each of at least two beacons, and an angle between at least two beacons.

20 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the local reference frame is established using passive environmental markings.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of determining a position of the portable display device relative to at least one environmental marking.

5 12. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of determining a position of the portable display device relative to an angle between at least two environmental markings.

10 13. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of retrieving the product information from a database stored in the portable display device.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein the local reference frame is established relative to the portable display device and moves with the portable display device.

15 15. A system for providing a user access to information comprising:
a portable display device within a local reference frame including an object;

a plurality of positional sensors;

20 a correlation means for determining the object according to a known position of the object within the local reference frame, and the position of the portable display device; and

a database for providing, via the portable display device, information corresponding to the object.

16. The system of claim 15, further comprising a plurality of active beacons defining the local reference frame, wherein the positional sensors are part of the portable display device.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein the correlation means determines the position of the portable display device based on a signal strength of at least one active beacon, wherein the signal strength is determined by the positional sensors.

18. The system of claim 15, where the correlation means determines the position of the portable display device is based on a signal transmission times from each of at least two active beacons.

19. The system of claim 15, further comprising a wireless communication link between the portable display device and a database of product information.

20. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for providing product information, the method steps comprising:

establishing a local reference frame which defines a space including a product identifier and a portable display device;

receiving a request for product information corresponding to the product identifier from the portable display device;

5 determining a position of the portable display device in relation to the local reference frame; and

providing the product information via the portable display device according to the position of the portable display device.

10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 150 155 160 165 170 175 180 185 190 195 200 205 210 215 220 225 230 235 240 245 250 255 260 265 270 275 280 285 290 295 300 305 310 315 320 325 330 335 340 345 350 355 360 365 370 375 380 385 390 395 400 405 410 415 420 425 430 435 440 445 450 455 460 465 470 475 480 485 490 495 500 505 510 515 520 525 530 535 540 545 550 555 560 565 570 575 580 585 590 595 600 605 610 615 620 625 630 635 640 645 650 655 660 665 670 675 680 685 690 695 700 705 710 715 720 725 730 735 740 745 750 755 760 765 770 775 780 785 790 795 800 805 810 815 820 825 830 835 840 845 850 855 860 865 870 875 880 885 890 895 900 905 910 915 920 925 930 935 940 945 950 955 960 965 970 975 980 985 990 995